

NEWS RELEASE October 12, 2017 Contact: Crescent Gallagher Communications Director 304/558-3708; 304/380-3922 (cell) cgallagher@wvda.us

## COMMISSIONER LEONHARDT URGES LEGISLATURE TO PASS VETERAN INCOME EXEMPTION

**Charleston, W.Va. –** Following the release of Governor Jim Justice's call for this upcoming special session, West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt issued the following the statement.

"The Legislature should absolutely pass the tax exemption on military pensions. When I first looked beyond my military career, West Virginia was a top option for a new permanent home," said Commissioner Leonhardt. "One of the main reasons for this was the exemption on military pensions."

"West Virginia has one of the highest per capita populations of veterans. The exemption makes sense and will be a tool to attract a much-needed workforce to our state. This is a win for our veterans and for the great state of West Virginia," continued Leonhardt.